

PAPERS COMMENT ON THE MESSAGE

'Times' Says President Tries
to Avoid Quarrel With
Irreconcilables.

PRaise in the 'World'
Approval of Harding's
Stand for Tax Revision
and Economy Given.

DEFINITE IN OBJECTIVES

'Tribune' Finds Foreign Policy
Is Outlined Only in Its
General Spirit.

Herewith are editorial comments
from newspapers published
in New York city and elsewhere
on the message of President Harding
and its meaning:

New York Times (Dem.)—What President Harding will have to say a year from now, or perhaps two years hence, will interest the country more than what he said yesterday in his address to Congress. His position is by no means an easy one. He is confronted upon one hand by a group of Republican Senators, the irreconcilables of the Foreign Relations Committee, who live, move and have their being in hatred of the League of Nations. Outside of that there is hardly an idea in their heads. It is natural that Mr. Harding should wish to avoid a quarrel with these men at the very beginning of his Administration. They were his old associates, friends; they are ambitious men, and they are in their purpose to control the foreign relations of the Republic. They do control the Senate, of course, and of that fact the Executive must take note.

New York Tribune (Rep.)—With respect to American foreign policy President Harding indicates a spirit rather than declares a programme. He is definitely as to the objects to be sought, but indefinite except in a negative way as to the exact way of attaining them.

He would have guarantees of peace through international association; the meeting of obligations that we owe to our allies in the war; a ratification of the Versailles Treaty minus the covenant and aid in enforcing it; an adoption of a peace resolution, but without any attached declaration of general policy, and some sort of gathering for the negotiation of a covenant not based on supererogatory principles or creating a body on which is laid the police duty of enforcing the terms of a particular treaty.

But what he would include in the new instrument he avoids declaring. To his mind, it would seem, is a treaty, a codification of general rights in the manner of The Hague Convention rather than in a political alliance, but how far he would go in enlarging the treaty law and giving it new sanctions he does not say.

New York World (Dem.)—There is one section of Mr. Harding's address concerning which there will be little adverse criticism. The country will heartily approve his plea for the revision of taxation, although he fails to offer any substitute for the excess profits tax that is to be repealed or for the deficit in the income and corporation taxes. It will receive with still greater cordiality his demand for rigid economy in Government expenditures and for a general reduction in appropriations. Here again Mr. Harding fails to take advantage of his opportunity to make the limitation of armament a part of the economic programme of his Administration. He discusses the question casually and expresses a benevolent interest in it, but he shows no appreciation of what it means in respect to the burden of taxation under which every citizen is suffering. It is idle to expect economy while the Government continues to spend for war purposes 80 cents out of every dollar that it collects in taxes.

Philadelphia Public Ledger (Rep.)—So far as it has been disclosed, the foreign policy of the Harding Administration is woefully incomplete. It is a negative rather than a positive policy as it is outlined in the message. The world association is a vague and formless thing. There is no outline of how we shall go about taking what we want from the treaty of peace and ignoring the league's enforcing machinery. We do not know whether we are to ratify the treaty by sections or to make separate commitments or agreements.

Detroit Free Press (Rep.)—President Harding's address to Congress is a plain, unvarnished document, essentially sound in its premises and sanely constructive. The country at large can examine it and know to a certainty where the Administration stands on any one of the big questions of the day. The most important matter before the country, the question of economic adjustment, comes first, and the President will have the hearty approval of the nation in his appeal for thriftiness both in appropriation and outlay and in his insistence that the cost of running the Government must be lowered.

Springfield Republican (Ind. Rep.)—The portion of the President's message which will be most studied is that dealing with foreign relations. He dismisses the League of Nations, as he has dismissed it before. With each dismissal it becomes more of a triumph of faith over experience for pro-league Republicans to persist in the hope that he will not build the promised association of nations upon some fragment of the covenant. The reference to a declaratory resolution ending a technical state of war with Germany is in a double sense the significant passage.

Springfield Union (Rep.)—Because the President's admirable exposition of our domestic questions fully responds to the tenor and purpose of the nation they may be passed with little comment other than the approval they will generally receive, that particular attention may be given that part of the message dealing with our foreign relations and the executive purpose pertaining thereto. This programme, in short, is one that while rejecting the league as a part of the treaty reserves the right under the treaty and leaves it to the Executive to enter into engagements with other nations, both with the late enemies and the Allies, both to conserve our rights and to help them in the furtherance of peace.

New Orleans Times-Picayune (Dem.)—We gather that the President is minded to go along with Congress as far as he can, leaving to it the initiative in matters of legislative policy. But one passage inspires the suspicion—and the hope—that he will not go all the way with Congress and its leaders unless convinced in mind and conscience that their way is the right way. In his declaration against separate peace treaties with the Central ex-Powers, he

found a rather significant indirect message to material minded or meddling Senators.

Richmond Times Dispatch (Dem.)—President Harding has fulfilled his campaign promise. He has kept the faith with the Borahs, the Johnsons and the other irreconcilables who led the fight in the obstructionist Senate that defeated ratification of the Treaty of Versailles. He has acted in accord with what he is pleased to regard as the popular mandate of last November against the League of Nations.

Boston Herald (Ind. Rep.)—One sentence in the message we delight to record, because he has so many times, in season and out, said the same thing. Here it is: "The high cost of living is inseparably linked with the high cost of government." Mr. Harding's voice rings true in all that he says upon the country's duty to the men who fought the war. The nation will respond warmly to the statement that we "must strengthen rather than weaken the moral fibre of the beneficiaries."

Pittsburgh Post (Dem.)—Thus the Republican faction irreconcilably against the League of Nations wine completely. It knew what it was talking about in the campaign and the Taft-Roosevelt element did not. At the same time, of course, the Democratic party is vindicated in its campaign statement that a vote for Mr. Harding would be one against the league.

Pittsburgh Dispatch (Ind.)—In stressing the pre importance of putting our own house in order President Harding touched upon practically every point in home policies that has been engaging popular attention. He rightly said that there is no more pressing problem than to measurably lift the burden of war taxation, and justly declared the most dangerous phase of government today is the unrestrained tendency to heedless expenditure and debt inflation, Federal, State and municipal.

Pittsburgh Gazette-Times (Rep.)—A sound general doctrine is enunciated by the President the while he particularizes with respect to the domestic problems that confront us and the logical means to their solution, after which he lays down with precision the determined policy of the nation and its chosen representatives touching foreign relations.

Cincinnati Commercial Tribune (Rep.)—President Harding goes straight to the point. There is nothing of equivocation, nothing of doubt, but much of directness in a frank and fearless dealing with all questions discussed. He says now what he said at first, both in the Senate and on the platform. This Government, this country, will have none of the League of Nations.

Philadelphia Inquirer (Rep.)—It may be said that the President reveals a splendid grip upon the internal situation, whether dealing with tariff, taxes, railroads, machine making, or with strict economy and appropriation reduced to the minimum. But from the world standpoint what he has to say regarding peace is paramount. And it is to the United States, too, for until the world can settle down upon a substantial basis there can be no substantiality to trade. And the United States has become a trading nation.

Boston Post (Dem.)—In the momentous matter of international relations the President makes it plain enough that his campaign attitudes, taken as a whole, are still adhered to. He is consistent in what we always have attributed to him, namely, a determination not to approve the entrance of the United States into the "existing" League of Nations. In dealing with the economy and industrial problems facing the country, the President, while insistent enough as to policy, is not specific as to method, leaving that to be determined by Congress.

Rocky Mountain News (Ind. Rep.)—Nothing of a revolutionary nature is put forward in President Harding's message to Congress. No attempt is to be made to bring back prosperity and restore former conditions as nearly as they may be restored following the great world upset. Legislative proposals can only go so far and they have always rebounded to them. No retroactive steps are to be taken if the Executive prevails regarding Government interference in business. What he said during his campaign the President repeats. "Less Government in business; more business in Government."

HARDING MESSAGE UNITES FACTIONS

Republican Comment Finds
Harmony Restored on
Party Programme.

DEMOCRATS CRITICAL

Disappointed at Repudiation
of Former Leader's Political Theories.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau.
Washington, D. C., April 12.

President Harding welded all party factions into a harmonious unit today in his message, on both foreign and domestic policies, as shown by the comment from Republicans of all former shades of opinion. Not a single discordant note was sounded in the majority party, criticism being confined to Democrats disappointed at the repudiation of their former leader's theories.

Senator Lodge (Mass.), Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, "I am extremely pleased, especially by the abandonment of the league and the opening of the door for peace."

Senator Knox (Pa.), "I am more than pleased. The President has shown his consistent and virile Americanism by rejecting absolutely the idea of our country entering into the European super-government euphonically designated the League of Nations. His declaration in favor of immediate peace is consistent with his attitude as a Senator."

Senator Frelinghuysen (New Jersey), "Common sense, common sense and common justice."

Senator Kellogg (Miss.), "The message as a whole is a great document. It opens the way to a programme satisfactory to all."

Senator Moses (N. H.), irreconcilable: "The President has shown, honest man that he is, that he keeps pledges. He pronounced a fitting benediction over the dead body of the league and set the feet of the country on the path of peace. It is significant that the climax of applause was accorded his discussion of the league and peace."

Senator Norris (Neb.), irreconcilable: "I welcome the President to the fold of the irreconcilables. He justified the faith of the American people."

Senator Smoot (Utah), "It was a remarkable presentation of conditions as they exist today. His recommendations I approve of in every case."

Senator Hitchcock (Neb.), Democrat, who led the fight for the league, and now acting minority leader: "The President's message is disappointing to those who believe as I do on international affairs."

Senator Penrose (Ohio), Democrat: "I am glad the President is interested in the merchant marine. I want to see the association of nations before I comment on it."

Senator Reed (Mo.), Democrat: "What the President said about the league suited me. I don't know what he means by the rest of it."

Senator New (Ind.), "I am entirely pleased and satisfied. The message had the approval of every Republican member of the Foreign Relations Committee. I know it will be approved by the country."

Senator Polkender (Wash.), irreconcilable: "The message was an able, comprehensive and sound document in its entirety."

Senator Johnson (Cal.), irreconcilable: "The President has squared his actions with his pre-election words. He has had the mandate of the people and scrapped the league. He enumerated two great policies, that of Washington on 'no entangling alliances,' and second an immediate declaration of peace. I am delighted."

Senator Borah (Idaho), irreconcilable: "It was a definite rejection of the league and I am greatly gratified. It approves the peace resolution and is exceedingly important and satisfactory. It is a long step toward opening trade with all nations, which is indispensable to real peace. I am so pleased that I am not disposed to gather any trouble from the future just now. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

Senator Kenyon (Iowa), "The message was excellent, foreshadowing early peace, withdrawal of American troops from Germany, and ultimately formation of an association to preserve peace. His purpose is high and I think he is more than anxious to bring belief to America, but fails to see that the cure is not domestic but international. The world is still organized for war, yet he will do nothing toward organizing it for peace. Every nation is now going it alone, wasting vast sums on armament, and sinking deeper into debt and possible bankruptcy."

Representative Mondell, Republican leader of the House: "The President approached and resolved the great international questions with his usual candor, sound sense and sympathy. While he did not cover all the subjects which we had expected, I think its effect on the business life of the country will be stimulating and encouraging."

Representative Towner (Iowa), "It was one of the strongest and best considered initial addresses that has been delivered in many years. It will meet with the approval of the country, help domestic conditions and help our foreign relations."

Representative Gillett: "It was a very wise and inspiring address, showing strong qualities of leadership and cooperation. The obliteration of the old lines which will be stimulating and encouraging."

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WOMEN VOTERS TO WAR ON BOSSISM

Convention of National
League Favors Study to
Improve Elections.

FOR FURTHER EFFICIENCY

Demand Reform in Politics.
Approve 8 Hour Day and
Lean to Prohibition.

CLEVELAND, April 12.—War on political bossism was the feature of today's session of the second annual convention of the National League of Women Voters and the weapon of the resolution of Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt's standing committee on election laws and methods, which reported to-day recommending that each State league of women voters call a "clean up" conference for the study of efficient government and how to gain it.

The report recommended the study by each State conference of State election laws and how they may be improved, election officers, election booths, ballots and voting machines, the primary law and how it may be improved, the elimination of corruption and bribery, campaign funds, corrupt practices acts, how to make national, State and city governments more efficient and more representative.

The committee advised that efficiency in Government be made the chief department of the National League of Women Voters.

The committee, however, urged that the utmost influence of the league be exerted in opposition to any attempted repeal of State primary laws, and that support be given to proposed amendments which tend to make nominations more representative of the masses of voters.

The American citizenship committee recommended that the Towner-House bill for the Federal standardization of schools be endorsed and supported.

The Smith-Towner bill was opposed by many State leagues. The new bill, Mrs. Frederick P. Bagley, committee chairman, said tonight, is modified to meet controversial objections.

The committee also recommended a separate bill for the independent citizenship of women and the appointment of a committee to study and present recommendations to Congress for the general revision of the naturalization laws.

The women in industry committee returned a resolution approving the eight hour day for working women through State action.

Probabilities that the convention will go on record as demanding strict prohibition enforcement developed today when the social hygiene committee, headed by Dr. Valeria Parker of Hartford, Conn., proposed a resolution to that effect for presentation to the convention.

In her annual address to-day Mrs. Maud Wood Park, national chairman of the league, sounded a demand for reform in politics throughout the nation. The demand was a direct challenge to machine politicians.

Mrs. Garrett Hay, New York leader of Republican women and of the National League of Women Voters there, declared in her State report that the New York Women's League had planted its flag in the coming New York Mayoralty campaign.

"By a resolution we passed the other day, we are going to find a good man to run for Mayor of New York," she said.

BILL TO END FORD'S ANTI-JEWISH DRIVE

Michigan Measure Creates New
Crime of General Libel With
Heavy Penalties.

BROAD IN APPLICATION

Legislator Sponsoring Law
Aims Particularly at 'Dearborn Independent.'

SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.
LANSING, Mich., April 12.—A bill designed to require Henry Ford's *Dearborn Independent* to cease publication of anti-Jewish articles was introduced in the House to-day by Representative G. W. Walsh of Grand Rapids, himself a publisher.

The bill creates and defines the new crime of general libel and provides penalties of fines up to \$1,000 or one year in prison, making each publication a separate offence. It prohibits the circulation of statements intended to hold up to public ridicule any religion or its adherents.

"General libel shall consist in circulation of malicious defamations," the bill states, "whether by printing signs or pictures tending to impeach the honesty, integrity, virtue, reputation, character or patriotism of any religious sect, thereby exposing them to public hatred, contempt, ridicule, prejudice or disfavour."

"This bill is intended to protect all religious sects," Representative Walsh said to-day. "It is especially designed to put an end to the defamation of the Jews by Henry Ford's paper."

The measure appears to be especially drawn to punish owners of periodicals that print general libels as well as those immediately in charge of the publication. It provides that any agreement to publish such libels shall constitute a conspiracy and that any persons responsible for the publication of general libels shall be equally guilty with those actually publishing the libel.

The bill is broad in its application, providing for punishment of all persons that participate in the distribution of the periodical containing the general libel. The penalty for distribution is \$1,000 without the prison sentence. Corporations guilty of circulating or publishing general libel are subject to a similar fine.

FORD GETS OHIO INJUNCTION.
Federal Court Permits Sale of His "Dearborn Independent."

TOLEDO, April 12.—Interference with the sale on the streets here of Henry Ford's weekly, the *Dearborn Independent*, was restrained to-day through an order issued in United States District Court.

The injunction named several men who were arrested a week ago following a riot in the streets. Those arrested were charged with intimidating Ford agents.

BANK BANDITS GET \$15,000.
DENVER, April 12.—Two messengers for the Stockyards National Bank were held up and robbed of approximately \$15,000 by three bandits in automobiles to-day.

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Nothing is reserved, everything is included from a tiny boudoir lamp to the most magnificent dinner set.

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ENGLISH DESIGNERS have outdone all past efforts this season in producing fine golf-toggery. These "PADDINGTON" Suits, besides showing marked individuality in the styling of the coats, have a much fuller bloomer knicker—practical and already accepted by leading golfers of the British Isles.

Excellent choice of patterns and cloths, in both dark and light colorings

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SPECIALIZING—42 years of it—
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Blue Serge with plain band . . . 1.95
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